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EXAMINER

MARTIN, NICHOLAS A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2154

DATE MAILED: 07/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/072,672

Applicant(s)

EATON ET AL.

Examiner

Nicholas Martin

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 February 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-52 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-52 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 February 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/8/02.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

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1. Claims 1-52 are presented for examination. Claims 33 and 34 have been added.

Claim Objections

2. The numbering of claims is not in accordance with 37 CFR 1.126 which requires the original numbering of the claims to be preserved throughout the prosecution. When new claims are presented, they must be numbered consecutively beginning with the number next following the highest numbered claims previously presented (whether entered or not).

Misnumbered claims 33-34 have been renumbered 51-52 respectively.

3. A series of singular dependent claims is permissible in which a dependent claim refers to a preceding claim which, in turn, refers to another preceding claim. A claim which depends from a dependent claim should not be separated by any claim which does not also depend from said dependent claim. It should be kept in mind that a dependent claim may refer to any preceding independent claim. See MPEP § 608.01(n).

Claims 35-36, 38-39, 41-43, 46 and 50 do not refer to preceding claims and therefore are in improper dependent claim format and will not be treated on its merits.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

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A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

5. Claims 1-9, 12-25, 40-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Debonnett, Jr., Allison P. (hereinafter Debonnett), US 2001/0032139.

6. As per claim 1, Debonnett teaches within an online communication system having a plurality of session clients including a first session client and a second session client, a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between the plurality of session clients comprising:

participating in the at least one online session by the first session client, wherein the participating includes accumulating a plurality of session information for the at least one online session (Paragraph [0002]); and

transferring the plurality of session information for the at least one online session from the first session client to the second session client using a communication connection between the first session client and the second session client (Paragraph [0024]).

7. As per claim 2, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

participating in the at least one online session by the second session client (Paragraphs [0024] and [0028]).

8. As per claim 3, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

initializing a session transfer prior to the transferring set up (Page 4, col. 2, claim 16).

9. As per claim 4, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 3 further comprising:

storing at least one transfer client profile associated with at least one of the plurality of session clients in the first session client prior to initializing a session transfer step, wherein the initializing a session transfer step includes choosing the second session client from the stored at least one transfer client profile (Paragraphs [0002], [0005] and [0029-0030]).

10. As per claim 5, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 1 wherein the first session client operates within a first session device, and further wherein the second client operates within a second session device (Abstract; Paragraph [0037]).

11. As per claim 6, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 5 wherein the first session device is a device selected from a group consisting of a fixed network device, a mobile device, and a cable box (Paragraph [0037]).

12. As per claim 7, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 5 wherein the second session device is a device selected from a group consisting of a fixed network device, a mobile device, and a cable box (Paragraph [0037]).

13. As per claim 8, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as reciting in claim 1 wherein the first session client and the second session client operate with a session device (Abstract; Paragraph [0037]).

14. As per claim 9, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 8 wherein the session device is a device selected from a group consisting of a fixed network device, a mobile device, and a cable box (Abstract; Paragraph [0037]).

15. As per claim 12, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 4 wherein the initializing a session transfer step further comprises:

 sending a session transfer notification from the first session client (Page 4, col. 2, claim 16), and

 launching a data transfer within the second session client (Paragraphs [0024]

and [0028]).

16. As per claim 13, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 12 wherein the online communication system comprises at least one online server (Abstract; Fig. 3; Paragraph [0024]), and further wherein the session transfer notification is sent from the first session client to the at least one online server informing the at least one online server to pass the plurality of session information to the second session client (Paragraph [0024], [0026-0030]; Page 4, col. 2, claim 16).

17. As per claim 14, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 12 wherein the session transfer notification is sent from the first session client to the second session client (Paragraph [0024], [0026-0030]; Page 4, col. 2, claim 16).

18. As per claim 15, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 4 wherein the second session client operates within a second session device having a second data transfer application (Paragraph [0037]), and further wherein the initializing a session transfer step further comprises;

 sending a session transfer notification from the first session client (Page 4, col. 2, claim 16), and

 launching a data transfer within the second session client (Paragraphs [0024] and [0028]).

19. As per claim 16, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least

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one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 15 wherein the online communication system comprises at least one online server (Abstract; Fig. 3; Paragraph [0024]), and further wherein the session transfer notification is sent from the first session client to the at least one online server informing the at least one online server to pass the plurality of session information to the second data transfer application within the second session device (Paragraph [0024], [0026-0030]; Page 4, col. 2, claim 16).

20. As per claim 17, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 15 wherein the session transfer notification is sent from the first session client to the second data transfer application of the second session device (Paragraph [0024], [0026-0030]; Page 4, col. 2, claim 16).

21. As per claim 18, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 15 wherein the first session client operates within a first session device, and further wherein the session transfer notification is sent from the first session device to the second session device (Paragraph [0024], [0026-0030] and [0037]; Page 4, col. 2, claim 16).

22. As per claim 19, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 4 wherein the initializing a session transfer step further comprises:

launching a data transfer within the second session client (Paragraphs [0024] and [0028]), and

sending session transfer notification from the second session client (Paragraph [0024], [0026-0030]; Page 4, col. 2, claim 16).

23. As per claim 20, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 19 wherein the online communication system comprises at least one online server (Abstract; Fig. 3; Paragraph [0024]), and further wherein the session transfer notification is sent from the second session client to the at least one online server informing the at least one online server to pass the plurality of session information to the second session client (Paragraph [0024], [0026-0030]; Page 4, col. 2, claim 16).

24. As per claim 21, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 19 wherein the session transfer notification is sent from the second session client to the first session client (Paragraph [0024], [0026-0033]; Page 4, col. 2, claim 16).

25. As per claim 22, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 4 wherein the second session client operates within a second session device having a second data transfer application (Paragraph [0037]), and further wherein the initializing a session transfer step further comprises:

launching a data transfer within the second session client (Paragraphs [0024] and [0028]), and

sending session transfer notification from the second session client (Paragraph [0024], [0026-0030]; Page 4, col. 2, claim 16).

26. As per claim 23, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 22 wherein the online communication system comprises at least one online server (Abstract; Fig. 3; Paragraph [0024]), and further wherein the session transfer notification is sent from the second session client to the at least one online server informing the at least one online server to pass the plurality of session information to the second session device (Paragraph [0024], [0026-0030], [0037]; Page 4, col. 2, claim 16).

27. As per claim 24, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 22 wherein the session transfer notification is sent from the second session device to the first session client (Paragraph [0024], [0026-0033], [0037]; Page 4, col. 2, claim 16).

28. As per claim 25, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 22 wherein the first session client operates within a first session device, and further wherein the session transfer notification is sent from the second from the second session device to the first session device (Paragraph [0024], [0026-0033], [0037]; Page 4, col. 2, claim 16).

29. Claims 40-48 do not teach or define any new limitations above claims 1-9, 12-25 and therefore are rejected for similar reasons.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

30. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

31. Claims 10, 32 and 49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Debonnett in view of Lobel et al. (hereinafter Lobel), US 2002/0198051.

32. As per claim 10, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 1 wherein the plurality of session information comprises one or a combination of information selected from a group consisting of an event name, an event number, an event description, a navigation path, a gambling house, a start time, an end time, a current status, an event monitoring, a URL where results reside, a last URL visited, the type of event, the score, prior history of related events, and event odds (Paragraphs [0002] and [0015-0017]).

33. Debonnett does not teach the method wherein the at least one online session is an online gambling event.

34. Lobel teaches a method wherein the at least one online session is an online gambling event (Paragraphs [0005-0007] and [0023]).

35. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Lobel and Debonnett because both deal with Internet based access to sites utilized for Internet based transactions. Furthermore, the

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teachings of Lobel to allow wherein the at least one online session is an online gambling event would improve the functionality of Debonnett's system by expanding the session index for settlement of goods purchased over the Internet to monetary exchanges within the cybermoney network.

36. Claims 32 and 49 do not teach or define any new limitations above claim 10 and therefore are rejected for similar reasons.

37. Claims 11, 31 and 50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Debonnett in view of Collins, Kevin (hereinafter Collins), US 2003/0055662.

38. As per claim 11, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 1 wherein the plurality of session information comprises one or a combination of information selected from a group consisting of an item name, an item number, an item description, an item identification, a navigational path, an auction type, an auction house, an end time, a number of bidders, a reserve price, a current status, a URL where results reside, and a sellers store from URL (Paragraphs [0002] and [0015-0017]).

39. Debonnett does not teach the method wherein the at least one online session is an online auction session.

34. Collins teaches a method wherein the at least one online session is an online auction session (Paragraphs [0004-0011], [0015] and [0037-0039]).

35. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Collins and Debonnett because both deal with

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transactions taking place via a communication network relating to client(s) interaction.

Furthermore, the teaching of Collins to allow wherein the at least one online session is an online auction session would improve the functionality of Debonnett's system by expanding the session index for settlement of goods purchased over the Internet to monetary exchanges within the cybermoney network.

36. Claims 31 and 50 do not teach or define any new limitations above claim 11 and therefore are rejected for similar reasons.

37. Claims 26-30 and 33-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Debonnett in view of Murray, Bradley A. (hereinafter Murray), US 6,040,781.

38. As per claim 26, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 2 wherein the online communication system comprises at least one online server, the method further comprising:

second session client to go to an event site associated with the at least one online session on the at least one online server (Abstract; Fig. 1; Fig. 3; Paragraph [0015]; [0024], [0026-0030]; Page 4, col. 2, claim 16); and

storing the latest information retrieved from the event site by the session client (Abstract; Fig. 1; Paragraphs [0002] and [0015]).

39. Debonnett does not teach a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 2 wherein the online

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communication system comprises at least one online server, the method further comprising:

receiving a user input by the session; and

retrieving a latest information by the second session client on the event site using the plurality of session information.

40. Murray teaches a method wherein the online communication system comprises at least one online server, the method further comprising:

receiving a user input by the session (Abstract; Col. 2, lines 34-39; Col. 2, line 66 – Col. 3, line 15); and

retrieving a latest information by the second session client on the event site using the plurality of session information (Abstract; Col. 1, lines 6-10; Col. 7, lines 52-55).

41. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Murray and Debonnett because both deal with providing continuity between events and clients for interaction over a communication network. Furthermore, the teaching of Murray to allow wherein the online communication system comprises at least one online server, the method further comprising receiving a user input by the session; and retrieving a latest information by the second session client on the event site using the plurality of session information would improve the functionality of Debonnett's system by utilizing updated and up to date information about events and site transactions from a wide information source.

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42. As per claim 27, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 26 wherein the at least one online server is characterized by a session server identification (Paragraph [0043]).

43. Debonnett does not teach a method wherein the retrieving the latest information step further comprises using the session server.

44. Murray teaches a method wherein the retrieving the latest information step further comprises using the session server (Abstract; Col. 1, lines 6-10; Col. 1, line 55 – Col. 2, line 8; Col. 2, lines 22-39; Col. 7, lines 52-55).

45. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Murray and Debonnett because both deal with providing continuity between events and clients for interaction over a communication network. Furthermore, the teaching of Murray to allow wherein the retrieving the latest information step further comprises using the session server would improve the functionality of Debonnett's system to ensure that the authorized session client is accessing the updated to information to increase security of each session/event.

46. As per claim 28, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 26 further comprising:

alerting an account user of an online session result when the online session has ended (Paragraph [0016]).

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47. Debonnett does not teach a method wherein an online session result contained within the latest information retrieved from the event site.

48. Murray teaches a method wherein an online session result contained within the latest information retrieved from the event site (Abstract; Col. 1, lines 6-10; Col. 1, line 55 – Col. 2, line 8; Col. 2, lines 22-39; Col. 7, lines 52-55).

49. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Murray and Debonnett because both deal with providing continuity between events and clients for interaction over a communication network. Furthermore, the teaching of Murray to allow wherein an online session result contained within the latest information retrieved from the event site would improve the functionality of Debonnett's system by utilizing updated information about events and site transactions from a wide information source when each session is complete.

50. As per claim 29, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 26 further comprising:

notifying an account user when the online session is active (Paragraphs [0024] and [0030]); and

alerting an account user when the plurality of session information is actionable (Paragraphs [0016], [0024] and [0030]).

51. Debonnett does not teach a method wherein an online session result contained within the latest information retrieved from the event site.

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52. Murray teaches a method wherein an online session result contained within the latest information retrieved from the event site (Abstract; Col. 1, lines 6-10; Col. 1, line 55 – Col. 2, line 8; Col. 2, lines 22-39; Col. 7, lines 52-55).

53. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Murray and Debonnett because both deal with providing continuity between events and clients for interaction over a communication network. Furthermore, the teaching of Murray to allow wherein an online session result contained within the latest information retrieved from the event site would improve the functionality of Debonnett's system by utilizing updated information about events and site transactions from a wide information source when each session is either active or available.

54. As per claim 30, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 2 wherein the online communication system comprises at least one online server, the method comprising:

receiving an asynchronous event notification from the at least one online server by the second session client to go to an event site associated with the at least one online session on the at least one online server (Abstract; Fig. 3Paragraph [0024], [0026-0030]; Page 4, col. 2, claim 16); and

storing the latest information retrieved from the event site by the session client (Abstract; Fig. 1; Paragraphs [0002] and [0015]).

55. Debonnett does not teach a method wherein retrieving a latest information by the second session client from the event site using the plurality of session information.

56. Murray teaches a method wherein retrieving a latest information by the second session client from the event site using the plurality of session information (Abstract; Col. 1, lines 6-10; Col. 7, lines 52-55).

57. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Murray and Debonnett because both deal with providing continuity between events and clients for interaction over a communication network. Furthermore, the teaching of Murray to allow wherein retrieving a latest information by the second session client from the event site using the plurality of session information would improve the functionality of Debonnett's system by utilizing updated and up to date information about events and site transactions from a wide information source.

58. As per claim 33, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 2 wherein the online communication system comprises at least one online server, the method further comprising:

storing the latest information retrieved from the event site by the session client (Abstract; Fig. 1; Paragraphs [0002] and [0015]).

59. Debonnett does not teach a method wherein the online communication system comprises at least one online server, comprising:

expiring of an event parameter of the plurality of session information; and
retrieving a latest information by the second session client from an event site associated with the at least one online session on the at least one online server using the plurality of session information.

60. Murray teaches a method wherein the online communication system comprises at least one online server, comprising:

expiring of an event parameter of the plurality of session information (Col. 5, lines 48-58); and

retrieving a latest information by the second session client from an event site associated with the at least one online session on the at least one online server using the plurality of session information (Abstract; Col. 1, lines 6-10; Col. 2, lines 34-39; Col. 2, line 66 – Col. 3, line 15; Col. 7, lines 52-55).

61. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Murray and Debonnett because both deal with providing continuity between events and clients for interaction over a communication network. Furthermore, the teaching of Murray to allow wherein the online communication system comprises at least one online server, comprising expiring of an event parameter of the plurality of session information; and retrieving a latest information by the second session client from an event site associated with the at least one online session on the at least one online server using the plurality of session information would improve the functionality of Debonnett's system by utilizing updated and up to date information about events and site transactions from a wide information

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source upon the end of a session.

62. As per claim 34, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 2 wherein the online communication system comprises at least one online server, the method further comprising:

storing the information from the event site by the second client session (Abstract; Fig. 1; Paragraphs [0002] and [0015]).

63. Debonnett does not teach a method wherein the online communication system comprises at least one online server, further comprising:

comparing a current time to an event time; and

retrieving a latest information by the second session client from an event site associated with the at least one online session on the at least one online server using the plurality of session information when the current time is past the event time.

64. Murray teaches a method wherein the online communication system comprises at least one online server, further comprising:

comparing a current time to an event time (Abstract; Col. 4, lines 32-37; Col. 5, lines 48-58); and

retrieving a latest information by the second session client from an event site associated with the at least one online session on the at least one online server using the plurality of session information (Abstract; Col. 1, lines 6-10; Col. 2, lines 34-39; Col. 2, line 66 – Col. 3, line 15; Col. 5, lines 48-58; Col. 7, lines 52-55).

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65. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Murray and Debonnett because both deal with providing continuity between events and clients for interaction over a communication network. Furthermore, the teaching of Murray to allow wherein the online communication system comprises at least one online server, further comprising comparing a current time to an event time; and retrieving a latest information by the second session client from an event site associated with the at least one online session on the at least one online server using the plurality of session information when the current time is past the event time would improve the functionality of Debonnett's system by utilizing updated and up to date information about events and site transactions from a wide information source in relation to the status of the event session.

66. As per claim 35, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 36 further comprising:

determining whether an online account user is present with the second session client prior to the retrieving step (Paragraphs [0019-0020]); and

continuing to the retrieving step when the online account user is present in the determining step (Paragraphs [0024-0028]).

67. As per claim 36, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 36 wherein the at least one online server is characterized by a session server identification (Paragraph [0043]).

68. Debonnett does not teach a method wherein the retrieving the latest information step further comprises using the session server.

69. Murray teaches a method wherein the retrieving the latest information step further comprises using the session server (Abstract; Col. 1, lines 6-10; Col. 1, line 55 – Col. 2, line 8; Col. 2, lines 22-39; Col. 7, lines 52-55).

70. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Murray and Debonnett because both deal with providing continuity between events and clients for interaction over a communication network. Furthermore, the teaching of Murray to allow wherein the retrieving the latest information step further comprises using the session server would improve the functionality of Debonnett's system to ensure that the authorized session client is accessing the updated to information to increase security of each session/event.

71. As per claim 37, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 2 wherein the online communication system comprises at least one online server, the method further comprising:

storing the information from the event site by the second client session (Abstract;

Fig. 1; Paragraphs [0002] and [0015]).

72. Debonnett does not teach a method wherein the online communication system comprises at least one online server, further comprising:

comparing a current time to a range surround an event time; and

retrieving a latest information by the second session client from an event site associated with the at least one online session on the at least one online server using the plurality of session information when the current time is past the event time.

73. Murray teaches a method wherein the online communication system comprises at least one online server, further comprising:

comparing a current time to a range surrounding an event time (Abstract; Col. 4, lines 32-37; Col. 5, lines 31-36, lines 48-58); and

retrieving a latest information by the second session client from an event site associated with the at least one online session on the at least one online server using the plurality of session information (Abstract; Col. 1, lines 6-10; Col. 2, lines 34-39; Col. 2, line 66 – Col. 3, line 15; Col. 5, lines 48-58; Col. 7, lines 52-55).

74. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Murray and Debonnett because both deal with providing continuity between events and clients for interaction over a communication network. Furthermore, the teaching of Murray to allow wherein the online communication system comprises at least one online server, further comprising comparing a current time to a range surrounding an event time; and retrieving a latest information by the second session client from an event site associated with the at least

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one online session on the at least one online server using the plurality of session information when the current time is past the event time would improve the functionality of Debonnett's system by utilizing updated and up to date information about events and site transactions from a wide information source in relation to the status of the event session.

75. As per claim 38, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 39 further comprising:

determining whether an online account user is present with the second session client prior to the retrieving step (Paragraphs [0019-0020]); and
continuing to the retrieving step when the online account user is present in the determining step (Paragraphs [0024-0028]).

76. As per claim 39, Debonnett teaches a method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a plurality of session clients as recited in claim 39 wherein the at least one online server is characterized by a session server identification (Paragraph [0043]).

77. Debonnett does not teach a method wherein the retrieving the latest information step further comprises using the session server.

78. Murray teaches a method wherein the retrieving the latest information step further comprises using the session server (Abstract; Col. 1, lines 6-10; Col. 1, line 55 –

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Col. 2, line 8; Col. 2, lines 22-39; Col. 7, lines 52-55).

79. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Murray and Debonnett because both deal with providing continuity between events and clients for interaction over a communication network. Furthermore, the teaching of Murray to allow wherein the retrieving the latest information step further comprises using the session server would improve the functionality of Debonnett's system to ensure that the authorized session client is accessing the updated to information to increase security of each session/event.

80. Claims 51-52 do not teach or define any new limitations above claims 26-30 and 33-39 and therefore are rejected for similar reasons.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following patents and publications are presented to further show the state of the art with respect to "System For Providing Continuity Between Session Clients And Method Therefor".

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|-----|--------------|-----------------------|
| i. | US 6,041,229 | Turner, Clive Nathan. |
| ii. | US 6,038,296 | Brunson et al. |

A shortened statutory period for reply to this Office action is set to expire in THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nicholas Martin whose telephone number is (571) 272-3970. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A. Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-3970.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Nicholas Martin
June 30, 2005


JOHN FOLLANSBEE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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